



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

Wm. Clifford Smith, Treasurer
Billy Tauzin Congressional Committee
550 South Van
Houma, LA 70361

SEP 12 2000

Identification Number: C00119040

Reference: July Quarterly Report (4/01/00-6/30/00)

Dear Mr. Smith:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. The review raised questions concerning certain information contained in the report(s). An itemization follows:

-Your report discloses contributions for both the November (general) and December (runoff) Louisiana 2000 federal elections. Please be advised that in the absence of a December (runoff) election, the November (general) is the only election for the purposes of contribution limitations. Court decisions in 1998 have overridden the facts and previous conclusions from FEC Advisory Opinion 1984 -54 that previously addressed contribution limits for federal elections in Louisiana.

Therefore, if the December (runoff) election is not held or the candidate does not participate in the December (runoff) election, any contribution received for the December (runoff) election must be returned to the donors or redesignated in accordance with 11 CFR §§110.1(b)(5), 110.2(b)(5) or 110.1(k)(3), as appropriate. The use of December (runoff) election contributions to pay November (general) debts and obligations is prohibited under the Act as such use could result in individuals making contributions with respect to the November (general) election in excess of the \$1,000 per election limit. Any subsequent report(s) filed with the Commission should disclose the refund or redesignation of any December (runoff) election contribution. Refunds or redesignations must be done within sixty days after the November (general) election.